

ABSTRACT

An automated storage apparatus having a data transfer device transfers data to and from data storage units. A robotic device moves the data storage units. An area holds the data storage units for which no data is presently required to be transferred thereto or therefrom. A reference data storage unit is in the holding area. In response to information indicating an excessive error level in transferring data between one data transfer device and a respective data storage unit: one data transfer device inserted in the data storage unit is removed; and a reference unit is inserted in the data transfer device for a reference transfer operation.